

**Board of Governors
Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education**

Meeting Minutes

301st Meeting
Thursday, October 19, 2023
9:00 a.m.
Commonwealth University - Bloomsburg

ATTENDING

Board of Governors:

Senator David Argall
Robert W. Bogle
Tim Briggs
Dr. Kate Shaw, Designee for Secretary of Education, Dr. Khalid N. Mumin
Abigail Hancox
Darrek Harshberger
Steve D'Ettorre, Designee for Secretary Akbar Hossain
Daniel Klingerman
David M. Maser
Marian Moskowitz
Representative Brad Roae
Senator Judith Schwank
Dr. Cynthia D. Shapira (Chair)
Larry C. Skinner (Vice Chair)
Samuel H. Smith (Vice Chair)
Skylar Walder
Secretary Neil R. Weaver
Janet L. Yeomans

Also, in attendance was Faculty Liaison, Dr. Tina Chiarelli-Helminiak.

Chair Cindy Shapira called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Attendance taken at the direction of Chair Shapira established that a quorum of the Board was present.

CHAIR'S REMARKS (Full remarks in video archive)

Chair Shapira welcomed all in attendance and extended thanks to President Hanna and the campus of Commonwealth University – Bloomsburg for hosting the meeting.

Chair Shapira made note of the enrollment data that was released last week which demonstrated a 3.4% increase in new student enrollment. She shared that we have seen an increase in this number for two years in a row.

HOST PRESIDENT'S REMARKS (Full remarks in video archive)

President Hanna welcomed everyone to the Commonwealth University – Bloomsburg. He recognized Aramark and the team in the President’s Office for their great work and hospitality.

REMARKS BY UNION LEADERS (Full remarks in video archive)

Dr. Todd Spaulding, Vice President, SCUPA, provided brief remarks.

Dr. Ken Mash, President, APSCUF, provided brief remarks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Shapira moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented:

- Meeting Minutes – July 20, 2023
- Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2023

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed.

REMARKS BY CHANCELLOR AND STAFF (Full remarks in video archive)

Chancellor Greenstein presented the State System’s Fall 2023 Report Card and the progress toward 2022-25 system priorities which focuses on five areas – 1). Expanding student opportunities and improve student outcomes, 2). Expanding student affordability and grow, 3). Operating sustainably, 4). Enhancing partnership with the state, and 5). Investing in our people and infrastructure to prepare for the future.

Dr. Kate Akers, Associate Vice Chancellor & Chief Data Officer, presented data and key indicators of board affirmed metrics for the five areas of the system priorities.

Chancellor Greenstein presented the 2023-24 Objectives in support of 2022-25 system priorities which focuses on three areas – 1). Scale innovations that drive credentialing growth, 2). Continue focus on financial stabilization, and 3). Continue investment in enabling people and infrastructure.

UNIVERSITY SUCCESS COMMITTEE (Full remarks in video archive)

Roll call was conducted at the request of Committee Chair Skinner, and the following members were present: Weaver, D’Ettorre, Roae, Klingerman, Walder, Yeomans, Shapira (ex-officio).

Committee Chair Skinner reviewed the committee items as presented in the meeting materials – Fiscal year 2023-24 final budget, and Fiscal year 2024-25 educational and general appropriation request.

The Fiscal year 2023-24 capital spending plan and capital budget authorization request was tabled until a later date.

Molly Mercer, Chief Financial Officer, provided an overview of the fiscal year 2023-24 final budget and fiscal year 2024-25 educational and general appropriation request.

MOTION: COMMITTEE CHAIR SKINNER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 FINAL ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR STATE SYSTEM UNIVERSITIES AND OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR, AS REFLECTED IN ATTACHMENT 1.

Voice vote of the committee. No opposition. The motion passed.

MOTION: COMMITTEE CHAIR SKINNER MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST, AS REFLECTED IN ATTACHMENT 1.

Voice vote of the committee. No opposition. The motion passed.

BOARD CONSIDERATION (Full remarks in video archive)

CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE UNIVERSITY SUCCESS COMMITTEE ACTIONS AS PRESENTED:

- **THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 FINAL ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE STATE SYSTEM UNIVERSITIES AND OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR, AS REFLECTED IN ATTACHMENT 1.**
- **THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST, AS REFLECTED IN ATTACHMENT 1.**

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed.

POLICY UPDATES (Full remarks in video archive)

- POLICY 1985-07-A: MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE AND REWARD PROGRAM
- POLICY 1998-04-A: PROCUREMENT OF GOODS, SERVICES, SUPPLIES AND CONSTRUCTION
- POLICY 1997-03: NAMING OF STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES

Dr. Denise Pearson, Vice Chancellor, Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, provided a brief overview of the policy review updates.

MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES AMENDMENTS TO POLICIES 1985-07-A, 1998-04-A, 1997-03, AS REFLECTED IN ATTACHMENTS.

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed.

SERVICE RESOLUTIONS (Full Remarks in video archive)

Chair Shapira presented resolutions to the following individuals honoring their contributions and service to the State System: (Note: Jeff Hawkins, who recently retired as Chief Counsel for the State System, will be honored at a later date.)

Cody Jones, recently served as Chief Strategic Relations Officer.

MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, CODY JONES SERVED AS CHIEF STRATEGIC RELATIONS OFFICER FOR THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION – STAUNCHLY ADVOCATING FOR OUR SYSTEM UNIVERSITIES THAT SERVE MORE THAN 80,000 STUDENTS ACROSS THE COMMONWEALTH; AND

WHEREAS, HE HELPED TRANSFORM OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE – ENHANCING OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMONWEALTH AND INCREASING INVESTMENT IN OUR STATE SYSTEM UNIVERSITIES; AND

WHEREAS, HE WAS PIVOTAL IN DRAFTING AND SECURING LANDMARK LEGISLATION THAT PROVIDED THE STATE SYSTEM WITH THE AUTHORITY TO REDESIGN ITSELF FOR THE FUTURE.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS PROUDLY RECOGNIZES CODY JONES FOR HIS DEDICATION TO THE STATE SYSTEM AND HEREBY HONORS HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO ADVANCING THE CAUSE OF PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Resolution approved by acclamation.

Allison Jones, who recently rotated off of the Board of Governors.

MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, ALLISON A. JONES SERVED ON THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION AS DESIGNEE FOR GOVERNOR TOM WOLF AND THEN AS GENERAL APPOINTEE; AND

WHEREAS, SHE WAS A STRONG PARTNER WITH THE BOARD AS IT UNDERTOOK MAJOR SYSTEM REDESIGN EFFORTS – PROVIDING INSIGHTS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE ADMINISTRATION; AND

WHEREAS, ALLISON WAS AN VOCAL ADVOCATE FOR THE SYSTEM, WHICH LED TO HISTORIC INVESTMENTS THAT PROVIDED GREATER FINANCIAL STABILITY FOR THE UNIVERSITIES WHILE KEEPING TUITION FLAT EVERY YEAR SHE SERVED ON THE BOARD.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS PROUDLY RECOGNIZES ALLISON A. JONES FOR HER DEDICATION TO THE STATE SYSTEM AND HEREBY HONORS HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO ADVANCING THE CAUSE OF PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Resolution approved by acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

For the record, Chair Shapira noted that the Board met in executive session on October 18, 2023, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to discuss contractual matters.

Representative Roae presented a final matter before the board regarding his concerns about the old signage at the merged universities of PennWest and Commonwealth. He suggested that a plan be put in place to make the signage consistent with university names.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randy A. Goin, Ph.D.
Deputy Chancellor

Meeting webcast is available here: [BOG Meeting - October 2023 - YouTube](#)